

Brinker, Sarah Beth Brown, Kathy Buckley, Honorable Salud Carbajal, Martino Cartier, Dr. Tom Catena, Lieutenant General Brian Cavanaugh, Rear Admiral Shoshana Chatfield, Bonnie Comley, Chief Robert Contee, Wendy Bingham Cox, Howard Cox, Administrator Deanne Criswell, Eduardo Del Riego, Shahla Ettetfagh, John Farahi, Ambassador David Fischer, Jennifer Fischer, Chief Joseph Gallucci, General Michael Garrett, Honorable Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Chief Rodney Harrison, David, Hryck, Dr. Joseph Jabbar, Craig Jackson, Carolyn Jackson, Honorable Jeh Johnson, Sun Yup Kim, Liz Koch, Charles Koch, Frank LaFerla, George Liu, Eduardo Martinez, Professor Michael Massimino, Margie McHugh, Flint McNaughton, Doris Meissner, Dr. Reza Mohajer, Edward Montero, Monica Morales-Mayer, Joseph Morrone, Professor Cherry Murray, Dr. Souhel Najjar, Larry O'Connor, Gholam Reza Odabae, Ronald Offutt, Dr. Demetrios Papademetriou, Nicholas Peppas ScD, Chief Thomas Richardson, Chi Chi Rodriguez, Reza Rofougaran, Dr. Martine Rothblatt, Commissioner Patrick Ryder, Kamil Salame, Henry Samueli, Susan Samueli, Justice Patricia Satterfield, Honorable Stephen Scalise, Adnan Sen, Dr. Michael Shahnasarian, Vlad Shmunis, Dr. Greg Simonian, Dr. Greg Thomopoulos, Rear Admiral Andrew Tjongson, Lieutenant General Giovanni Tuck, Elizabeth Weymouth, Dean Michelle Williams, Alan Willner, Richard Wilson, George Xu.

INTERNATIONAL ELLIS ISLAND MEDAL OF HONOR
RECIPIENT

Dr. Segenet Kelemu.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF JACK C. JACKSON, SR.

HON. RUBEN GALLEGO

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 17, 2023

Mr. GALLEGO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and legacy of the Honorable Jack C. Jackson, Sr., who passed away on March 5, 2023.

Jack C. Jackson, Sr. served as a member of the Arizona Legislature as well as a Navajo Nation Council delegate. Jackson was born in Leupp, Arizona on the Navajo, and went on to become an educator at Window Rock High School and Diné College. Jack strongly believed in the importance of education for Navajo children. Throughout his time in both the Arizona House of Representatives and Senate, he was a tireless supporter of tribal educational institutions and helped establish Arizona Indian Legislative Day, an opportunity for Arizona's 22 tribal governments to make their voices heard. Jack was a strong advocate for the preservation of Diné culture, language, and traditions for future generations of the Navajo Nation.

Jack C. Jackson, Sr. has had a tremendous impact on the Navajo Nation and Arizona. We are all better for having experienced his leadership and wisdom. I extend my deepest condolences to Mr. Jackson's family and join all those who knew him in commemorating his lasting contributions. He tirelessly fought for his community, and his legacy will live on as an inspiration to us all.

Jack C. Jackson, Sr. was loved by those who knew him and will be deeply and sincerely missed by the Nation he served so honorably. May he rest in peace.

CELEBRATING BANGLADESH INDEPENDENCE DAY

HON. HALEY M. STEVENS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 17, 2023

Ms. STEVENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating Bangladesh upon its Independence Day. On March 26, 1971, the people of Bangladesh declared their independence from Pakistan, after a long and hard-fought struggle for freedom.

At this time, I would like to join our friends from the community in honoring the brave men and women who fought and sacrificed their lives for the cause of a free and democratic Bangladesh. Additionally, it is a great pleasure to recognize the many contributions of Michigan's 150,000 member Bangladeshi-American community to the state and the many more across the Nation, and to celebrate their rich culture and heritage this March.

Many Bangladeshi-Americans are doctors, engineers, and small business owners, bolstering economic development and job creation in America. Dr. MD Rabbi Alam, a resident of Michigan's 11th District, is the Founder and Chairman of Bangabandhu Commission and is the President of Bangabandhu Parishad USA. The Bangabandhu Commission and Parishad work together closely to strengthen local communities through civic engagement, training and development opportunities. It is my pleasure to acknowledge the wonderful work Dr. Alam and others in the community do to elevate issues affecting Bangladesh and Bangladeshi-Americans.

Over the past five decades, Bangladesh has made significant progress in areas such as education, gender equality, health care, and economic development, and has emerged as a vibrant South Asian Democracy. Bangladesh's economy has grown an average rate of 6 percent over the past year, making it one of the fastest growing economies in the world. The country's GDP has tripled since 2006 and is projected to continue to grow even more in the coming years.

Bangladesh is also one of the most vulnerable countries to climate change, yet their government has implemented various adaptation measures, including cyclone shelters, strengthening river embankments, and promoting climate-resilient agriculture practices. Despite facing numerous challenges, the people of Bangladesh have demonstrated remarkable resilience and determination in building a better future for themselves and their families.

With the significant strides made by Bangladesh in promoting women's rights and empowerment, the country has successfully increased women's participation in politics and implemented policies to address gender-based violence. According to World Health Organization (WHO), the life expectancy of women was just 26 years, at the country's birth in 1971. By the end of year 2020 life expectancy for women is now 72 years. Bangladesh has shown incredible progress for gender equality, and by the beginning of 2023, the Prime Minister, the Speaker of the House, the Deputy Leader of the Parliament, the Education Minister, the Agriculture Secretary of the Bangladesh Awami League, the Foreign Affairs Secretary of the Bangladesh Awami League,

and the Health and Population Secretary of the Bangladesh Awami League are all women. In addition to the women ranking in leadership, there are also seats in parliament that are reserved for women and many more represent seats that are directly elected without quotas. It is clear that Bangladesh has set itself as an example of women empowerment by the Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and the Bangladesh Awami League, and we are proud to recognize these accomplishments today.

This Independence Day, my colleagues and I are excited to join the Bangabandhu Commission and Bangabandhu Parishad USA in elevating the theme of women empowerment. Dr. Alam and Bangladeshi Americans from around the country will be travelling to Bangladesh to participate in an International Seminar on Women Empowerment, on March 23rd, with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina joining to celebrate this occasion and the dream of the founding father of the nation, the late Honorable Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. I thank Dr. Alam and his team for hosting this incredible event and for welcoming participation from members of Congress.

Mr. Speaker, as a nation founded on the principles of freedom and democracy, the United States celebrates the expression of these values by the people of Bangladesh as they continue to work towards a more peaceful, prosperous, and inclusive society. It is our hope that our two nations continue to grow our friendship and support each other in our mutual aspiration for a brighter future. It is an honor to recognize Bangladesh and the Bangladeshi Americans of our Nation. I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating this Bangladeshi independence and in honoring the rich history and culture of this great nation. Happy Independence Day.

HONORING MARIA WILSON

HON. MORGAN MCGARVEY

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 17, 2023

Mr. MCGARVEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Maria Wilson for her dedication to Kentucky's Third District.

As a graduate of Family Scholar House, Maria continues to work hard to ensure the organization can help women in need and get support to succeed in life. She continues to serve her community by uplifting those in Louisville who need it most. I thank Maria for her commitment to Louisvillians.

HONORING CLAUDIA ALVAREZ

HON. J. LUIS CORREA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 17, 2023

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the achievements of Claudia Alvarez, an Orange County Superior Court Judge.

Prior to becoming a judge, she served as the Orange County Deputy District Attorney for over 22 years. Claudia Alvarez graduated from California State Fullerton in 1991, before attending Loyola Law School. After graduating in